

Attorney Docket No. 1-74168

Kieltyka et al. reference teaches only a method of attaching a thermoplastic attachment to one side of a substrate. Specifically, the Kieltyka et al. reference teaches compression molding the upper surface (28) of the substrate (26) (to thereby form the substrate into a desired shape) and injection molding an attachment surface (20) on the lower surface (30) (see paragraph 18).

The invention claimed in Claim 34 is therefore not shown or suggested in any of the art of record, individually or when combined. None of the cited references, alone or in combination, show or suggest providing a substrate defining an airbag door, the substrate having a passenger-compartment-facing first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, and simultaneously over-molding an outer layer on the first surface of the substrate and a hinge on the second surface of the substrate, as claimed in Claim 34.

During the interview, Claim 48 was also discussed in light of the Gallagher et al. reference. Specifically it was discussed that the Gallagher et al. reference teaches only a single "tethering layer defining cavity 74" (see column 8, lines 52 through 57 and Fig. 6), and therefore does not show or suggest placing a substrate defining an airbag door into the mold cavity to define first and second cavities.


The invention claimed in Claim 48 is therefore not shown or suggested in any of the art of record, individually or when combined. None of the cited references, alone or in combination, show or suggest placing a substrate defining an airbag door into the mold cavity to define first and second cavities, the substrate having a passenger-compartment-facing first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, injecting a first material into the first cavity to form an outer layer on the first surface, and injecting a second material into the second cavity to form a hinge on the second surface of the substrate, as claimed in Claim 48.

The Examiner neither agreed nor disagreed with the discussions, but stated that he "sees the point" that the undersigned attorney made regarding the Kieltyka et al. and Gallagher et al. references and that the references would be again reviewed. The Examiner further stated that although he was being transferred effective July 7, 2006, another Examiner (not yet assigned) would review the Kieltyka et al. and Gallagher et

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al. references in light of the comments presented by the undersigned attorney during the interview and restated in this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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